

### *International Education: Mexico and the United States*

These lessons are designed as an individual or group study of the government of Mexico as a specific comparison to the United States. **Each of the four comparative lessons** requires **two one-hour periods** for teacher implementation and student research. Approximately **two student homework hours** are necessary to complete the assignments. Each lesson is to be completed in timely intervals after the United States governmental unit.



**I. Content:**

I want my students to understand (or be able to):

- A. Conduct research on the United Mexican States
- B. Reinforce their knowledge of the American political system
- C. Evaluate the similarities and differences with the government of Mexico

**II. Prerequisites:**

In order to fully appreciate this lesson, the student must know (or be experienced in):

- A. The basic history, structure and principles of the government of the United States
- B. Research skills

**III. Instructional Objective(s):**

The student will:

- A. List the fundamental principles, powers and structure of the three branches of US government with the United Mexican States.
- B. List how and when the US elections are conducted, including the role of political parties. Compare with Mexico.
- C. List the international organizations in which the US and Mexico are affiliated.
- D. List military fact and figures for the US and Mexico.

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- E. Write a compare/contrast paper demonstrating understanding of government concepts.
- F. Summarize and analyze current articles on Mexico regarding indicated topics.

**IV. Materials and Equipment**

**Teacher:** Student templates (see appendix A)

Teacher templates (see appendix B)

Library or computer lab

**Student:** Access to website: [www.worldgeography.abc-clio.com](http://www.worldgeography.abc-clio.com)

(Purchase @ 1-800-368-6868)

Access to website: [www.cia.gov/cia/publication/factbook/doc/history.html](http://www.cia.gov/cia/publication/factbook/doc/history.html)

Access to other news bank websites for current articles

Suggested Reference books:

- The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2004
- Constitutions of the World, Robert L. Maddex, Congressional Quarterly Inc.
- Governments of the World, A Student Companion, Richard M. Pious, Oxford University Press
- World Encyclopedia of Parliaments and Legislatures, Congressional Quarterly Inc.
- Other Encyclopedias

**V. Instructional Procedure:**

- A. Explain the focus on Mexico and show previous sample projects and/or portfolios.
- B. Handout comparative government worksheet student template (see appendix) after each US governmental unit study. Designate one color paper to be used uniformly through the year for each comparative assignment.
- C. After explaining the research procedure, the teacher utilizes the question and answer review with students in order to complete the US information side of the worksheet as a model for researching México's government & listing it on the template.
- D. Students research Mexican government and current event articles using the suggested websites and resources. Since no bibliography or footnoting is required, students should turn in copies of information used in their assignments.
- E. Working in small groups, the students complete the Mexico side of the template.

***International Education: Mexico and the United States***

- F. Students work individually to type their own compare/contrast papers. The student can choose a variety of news articles under indicated topics in which to summarize and respond. The respond/reaction/evaluation of the news article is a critical element of this project and portfolio.
- G. Closure will be obtained when the student turns in a portfolio of their four comparative papers and current events article summaries/ analysis. This portfolio will also include a final analysis and predictions for the future segments. (See the appendix A for the template of the portfolio rubric.)

**VI. Assessment / Evaluation:**

Upon completion of the assignment, each student's papers will be graded on the quality, content and accuracy of the understanding of the principles of the U S/ Mexico government and current issues.

**VII. Idaho Achievement Standards:**

- 9-12.G.4.2.1 Identify the three branches of federal government, their powers, and responsibilities.
- 9-12.G.4.2.2 Explain the functions, powers, interactions, and relationships among federal, state, local, and tribal governments.
- 9-12.G.4.2.4 Analyze the role of political parties and other political organizations and their impact on the American system of government.
- 9-12.G.4.2.5 Explain the electoral process at each level of government.
- 9-12.G.4.3.1 Explain the ways in which individuals become citizens and distinguish among obligations, responsibilities, and rights.
- 9-12.G.5.1.1 Compare different forms of government, such as presidential with parliamentary, unitary with federal, democracy with dictatorship.
- 9-12.G.5.1.3. Describe the characteristics of United States foreign policy and how it has been made and implemented over time.
- 9-12.G.5.1.4 Identify and evaluate the role of the United States in international organizations and agreements, such as United Nations, NAFTA, and the International Red Cross.

**VIII. Follow Up or Extension Activities:**

- A. Students or student groups give oral presentations to the class. Discussions of similarities and differences of governmental processes and procedures would result. Students may also share and discuss current event articles.

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- B. Posters may be created on any of the various topics (i.e. how to amend the constitution, political parties and their platforms, photographs of the heads of state, international affiliations, etc.) to present in class.
- C. Share ethnic foods, drinks, art, music, sports, games, etc. on the day of presentation.
- D. For supplemental research and lessons including activities, refer to:  
Jalisco Educational Kit (Idaho-Jalisco Sister State Task Force, Sept. 1998)  
C/O Idaho Department of Commerce
- E. Additional sites for research:  
<http://www.elbalero.gob.mx/kids/government/html/home.html>  
<http://www.jalisco.gob.mx>

## Appendix A

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Am. Government: Global Project: Mexico  
Period \_\_\_\_\_ **1st Quarter: Historical Timeline**  
Point Value \_\_\_\_\_ Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUIREMENTS for completing a History Timeline of United Mexican States:

1. TWO or more sources of information are required.
2. Use the computer web site below for one source and then any other source:  
(Encyclopedias, 2004 Almanac, Constitutions of the World\* or other reference books are suggested.)
3. No bibliography is required.

Your **only** computer lab/library day *for* research will be \_\_\_\_\_  
+5 daily points will be given for bringing run-off copies **or** running the copies of the research during the class period in Library.

Suggested website research is: <http://www.worldgeography.abc-clio.com>

**\*\*You should *bookmark this site* on your home computer, as we will refer to it all year. Other websites or other forms of references may be used for research.**

1. **RUN OFF a copy of Mexico's history** from the web site listed above or from other sources of resources.  
Use the copies for this project, but also **save** them for additional assignments & for your portfolio at the end of the year.
2. **TYPE a "History Time Line" of Mexico**, using at least 30 dates **of historical, economic, and cultural** significance.
  - These dates must be a *comprehensive and continuous chronology*.
  - Do not leave major "gaps" in eras unless justified.
  - "Computer-generated" copies will not be accepted, but you may edit (delete & add) from existing timelines.

**DO NOT USE MORE THAN 50 DATES!**

Include the following:

- Earliest-known civilization (Pre Colombian)
  - "Discovery"
  - Colonization power & dates
  - Independence date or establishment as sovereign state
  - Date of most recent constitution
  - Reign of the present leader
  - At least 3 dates from 2000-2004 (refer to Almanac)
  - Date your country entered the United Nations
3. **MAKE a "Cover or Title Sheet" for your timeline** that includes your name & class period with the title Mexico. You may earn bonus daily points for creating a visual representing Mexico on this page. This title page will also be used in your portfolio.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Point Value \_\_\_\_\_

Am. Government: Global Project: Mexico

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter:** Constitution/Elections

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Comparison of Constitution, Political Parties & Elections

**REQUIREMENTS** for completing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Mexico Assignment

1. TWO or more sources of information are required.
2. Use the computer web site below for one source and then any other source: (Encyclopedias, 2004 Almanac, Constitutions of the World\* or other reference books are suggested.)
3. No bibliography is required.

Your **only** computer lab/library day *for* research will be \_\_\_\_\_

+5 daily points will be given for bringing run-off copies **or** running the copies of research during class period in Library.

Suggested website research is: <http://www.worldgeography.abc-clio.com>

**\*\*You should *bookmark this site* on your home computer, as we will refer to it all year. Other websites or other forms of references may be used.**

1. **RUN OFF a copy of Mexico's constitution, government & current events.**

Use the copies for this project, but also save them for additional assignments and for your portfolio at the end of the year. Select 4 articles from the following topics: **Elections, Government, Political Conflict or Social Issues** dated 2002-2004. Seek teacher assistance/advice on additional topics, if needed.

2. **COMPLETE** the following 2 charts:

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
<b><u>THE CONSTITUTION OF</u></b>		
<b>AGE/DATE ADOPTED</b>	_____	_____
<b># REVISIONS</b>	_____	_____
<b># OF ARTICLES</b>	_____	_____
<b>LENGTH/#OF WORDS</b>	_____	_____
<b>AMENDMENT (PROPOSE)</b>	_____	_____
<b>PROCESS (RATIFY)</b>	_____	_____
<b>WHERE IS THE BILL</b>	_____	_____
<b>OF RIGHTS? EXAMPLES</b>	_____	_____

<b><u>THE ELECTION PROCESS OF</u></b>	<b><u>UNITED STATES</u></b>	<b><u>MEXICO</u></b>
<b>Suffrage Age</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Main Political Parties</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Parties (top 4+)</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Nickname of each</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Age of each Party</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>% Support for each</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Major Platform</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Leaders of each</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>% of voters in last election</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Penalties for non voting/or incentives</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>General election Date or last Election date</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>

1. **TYPE** (double-spaced) a 2 page paper which compares/contrasts Mexico's constitution and election process with that of the U.S. Make sure you have **at least one paragraph for each** of the following: constitution, political parties and the election process. Be sure to include information on the U.S. in each paragraph.
2. **READ, SUMMARIZE AND RESPOND** to each of the 4 topical articles.  
**TYPE** (double-spaced) your summaries and responses for each article. Include a copy of each article with your summaries.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Period \_\_\_\_\_  
Point Value \_\_\_\_\_

Am. Government: Global Project: Mexico  
**3rd Quarter:** Legislative/Executive Branches  
Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Comparison of Executive, Legislative and Local Governments

**REQUIREMENTS** for completing the project:

1. TWO or more sources of information are required.
2. Use the computer web site below for one source and then any other source:  
(Encyclopedias, 2004 Almanac, Constitutions of the World\* or other reference books are suggested.)
3. No bibliography is required.

Your **only** computer lab/library day for research will be \_\_\_\_\_  
+5 daily points will be given for bringing run-off copies **or** running the copies of research during class period in Library.

Suggested website research is: <http://www.worldgeography.abc-clio.com>

**\*\*You should *bookmark this site* on your home computer, as we will refer to it all year.**  
Other websites or other forms of references may be used.

1. **RUN OFF a copy of Mexico's Executive, Legislative, political leader & current events.** Use the copies for this project, but also save them for additional assignments and for your portfolio at the end of the year. Select 4 articles from the following topics: **Political Conflict, Social Issues, Human Rights, Immigration & Refugees, or Foreign Affairs** dated 2002-2004. Seek teacher assistance/advice on additional topics, if needed.

2. **COMPLETE THESE CHARTS:**

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
<b><u>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</u></b>		
Name & title of Head of State	_____	_____
Name & title of Head of Gov't	_____	_____
3 Political Facts about the Head of Government	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
3 Biographical Facts about the Head of Gov't	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
Term of & time in office	_____	_____
How is executive chosen?	_____	_____
Qualifications for office	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
Executive Offices # (aka Cabinet)	_____ _____	_____ _____

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
Duties & Responsibilities	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
<b><u>LEGISLATIVE BRANCH</u></b>		
Name of body	_____	_____
Unicameral or bicameral	_____	_____
Number in each house	_____	_____
Term of office	_____	_____
Qualification for each House	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Length of Session/ date begins	_____	_____
Duties and responsibilities	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
<b><u>STATE &amp; LOCAL GOVERNMENT/ORGANIZATIONS</u></b>		
Name & # political divisions	_____	_____
Powers of State/Local Gov't	_____	_____
	_____	_____

3. **Type (double-spaced) a 2-3-page comparison/contrast paper** on the US and Mexico's National Executive and Legislative branches. Include another paragraph which compares/contrasts Mexico's President with the U.S. President both politically and professionally. Make sure that you have four paragraphs for the following: executive branch, executive leader, legislative branch, and state government. Include information on the U.S. in all of your paragraphs.
4. **Read, summarize and respond to each of the 4 topical articles** chosen from the website. Type (double-spaced) your summaries and responses. Include copies of all articles with your papers.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Period \_\_\_\_\_  
Point Value \_\_\_\_\_

Am. Government: Global Project: Mexico  
**4th Quarter:** Judicial Branch/Affiliations/Military  
Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Comparison of Judicial Branch/ International Affiliations/Military

**REQUIREMENTS** for completing the project:

1. TWO or more sources of information are required.
2. Use the computer web site below for one source and then any other source:  
(Encyclopedias, 2004 Almanac, Constitutions of the World\* or other reference books are suggested.)
3. No bibliography is required.

Suggested website research is: <http://www.worldgeography.abc-clio.com>

Other websites or other forms of references may be used.

Your **only** computer lab/library day *for* research will be \_\_\_\_\_  
+5 daily points will be given for bringing run-off copies **or** running the copies during

1. **RUN OFF COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING FOR MEXICO**, using the above website: Judiciary, International affiliations, military facts & figures. Select four articles on the topics: **Crime & Corruption, Environment, Military Affairs, Terrorism, Territories & Possessions, Immigration, or Health Issues.**
2. COMPLETE THE CHART:

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
<b><u>JUDICIAL BRANCH</u></b>		
Name of highest court	_____	_____
Judge's term of office	_____	_____
Qualification for office	_____	_____
Method of Appointment Or Election	_____	_____
City in which Court is located	_____	_____
When does Court meet?	_____	_____
Types if cases heard	_____	_____
Describe National/State Additional duties & responsibilities of the court	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
<b><u>INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS</u></b>		
List affiliations to which country belongs.	_____	_____
	_____	_____
List & describe 1 affiliation	_____	_____
To compare/contrast	_____	_____
(not United Nations)	_____	_____
<b><u>MILITARY</u></b>		
Total active armed forces	_____	_____
Where does your country have military acting as UN forces?	_____	_____
	_____	_____
% of total population serving in military	_____	_____
Annual expenditure	_____	_____
Military Service	_____	_____
	_____	_____

**3. TYPE (double-spaced) a 2 page comparison/contrast paper** on the US and Mexico's National Judicial Branch, International Affiliations and Military. Type one paragraph for **each topic**. Include information on the US in each paragraph. In your international affiliation paragraph include a brief summary of any organization to which Mexico belongs and the U.S. does not.

**4.READ, SUMMARIZE AND RESPOND** to each of the 4 topical articles from the website. **TYPE (double-spaced)** your summaries and responses, and turn in copies of all articles.

## COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT PORTFOLIO

DUE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: 100 POINTS=1 UNIT TEST

*Your portfolio will be submitted in a folder.*

*Point value for each part is indicated in parentheses.*

*Include this page inside the back cover*

*Gather and complete all information required and present in the following order:*

1. FOLDER (5 POINTS) \_\_\_\_\_

2. TITLE PAGE:  
TITLE, NAME OF STUDENT, CLASS PERIOD (2 POINTS) \_\_\_\_\_

3. TABLE OF CONTENTS: (5 POINTS) \_\_\_\_\_

4. WORKSHEETS FOR EACH GLOBAL ASSIGNMENT  
ARRANGED IN ORDER: 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTERS:  
(2 POINTS EACH) \_\_\_\_\_

5. WRITTEN COMPARISON/CONTRAST ASSIGNMENTS  
FOR EACH QUARTER (1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup>) (2 POINTS EACH) \_\_\_\_\_

6. GLOBAL ARTICLES AND SUMMARIES ARRANGED  
BY QUARTER (1 PT. EA/ 8 PTS. TOTAL) \_\_\_\_\_

7. 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER GLOBAL PROJECT: COMPARISON/  
CONTRAST PAPER AND 4 ARTICLES (40 POINTS) \_\_\_\_\_

8. OTHER PROJECTS AND ASSIGNMENTS FROM THE YEAR  
(1 POINT EACH, maximum of 8 points) \_\_\_\_\_

EXAMPLES: Economic map, Jim Lehrer or other international news program, any additional Mexico or international news articles, related term paper, related novel, or other assignment relating to our study of Mexico.

9. FINAL ANALYSIS IN 2 PARTS: (20 POINTS TOTAL)

Use your four-comparison/contrast assignments from the year to write a paragraph of at least ½ page emphasizing **4 striking differences or similarities or combination thereof between Mexico and the United States.** Be specific and support with examples. Begin your paragraph with a topic sentence and write a concluding sentence. (10 points) \_\_\_\_\_

Using the 12 articles you have read over the year on Mexico, make **3 specific predictions** regarding Mexico's future progress or problems. Write a concluding statement. (10 points) \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL POINTS ON PORTFOLIO** \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix B

### TEACHER TEMPLATE

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Point Value \_\_\_\_\_

Am. Government: Global Project: Mexico

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter:** Constitution/Elections

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Comparison of Constitution, Political Parties & Elections

REQUIREMENTS for completing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Mexico Assignment

4. TWO or more sources of information are required.
5. Use the computer web site below for one source and then any other source: (Encyclopedias, 2004 Almanac, Constitutions of the World\* or other reference books are suggested.)
6. No bibliography is required.

Your **only** computer lab/library day *for* research will be \_\_\_\_\_

+5 daily points will be given for bringing run-off copies **or** running the copies of research during class period in Library.

Suggested website research is: <http://www.worldgeography.abc-clio.com>

\*\*You should **bookmark this site** on your home computer, as we will refer to it all year. Other websites or other forms of references may be used.

1. **RUN OFF a copy of Mexico's constitution, government & current events.**

Use the copies for this project, but also save them for additional assignments and for your portfolio at the end of the year. Select 4 articles from the following topics: **Elections, Government, Political Conflict or Social Issues** dated 2002-2004. Seek teacher assistance/advice on additional topics, if needed.

2. **COMPLETE** the following 2 charts:

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
<b><u>THE CONSTITUTION</u></b>		
AGE/DATE ADOPTED	<u>Sept. 17, 1787/1789</u>	_____
# REVISIONS	<u>27 formal Amendments</u>	_____
# OF ARTICLES	<u>7 topics</u>	_____
LENGTH/#OF WORDS	<u>7,200 words</u>	_____
AMENDMENT (PROPOSE)	<u>2/3 vote of Congress</u>	_____
PROCESS (RATIFY)	<u>¾ states or 38 states</u>	_____
WHERE IS THE BILL	<u>1<sup>st</sup> 10 Amendments</u>	_____
OF RIGHTS? EXAMPLES	<u>Freedom of speech</u>	_____
	<u>Press, assembly, etc.</u>	_____

<b><u>THE ELECTION PROCESS OF</u></b>		<b><u>UNITED STATES</u></b>	<b><u>MEXICO</u></b>
Suffrage Age		<u>18 years, universal male/female</u>	_____
Main Political Parties		<u>Republicans, Democrats</u>	_____
Parties (top 4+)		<u>Greens, Libertarians</u>	_____
Nickname of each		<u>R=Grand Old Party/elephant</u>	_____
		<u>D=donkey</u>	_____
		<u>G=</u>	_____
		<u>L=Statue of Liberty</u>	_____
Age of each Party		<u>R=1860, D=1800</u>	_____
		<u>G=2000, L=1971</u>	_____
% Support for each		<u>R=48%, D=48%</u>	_____
		<u>G=2%, L=1/2%</u>	_____
Major Platform		<u>R=conservative, less govt/taxes</u>	_____
		<u>D=liberal, govt solves issues/problems</u>	_____
		<u>G=govt environmental &amp; consumer protection</u>	_____
		<u>L=little govt, individual liberties</u>	_____
Leaders of each		<u>R=George W. Bush/Bill Frist/Dennis Hastert</u>	_____
		<u>D=John Kerry/Tom Dashle/Nancy Pelosi</u>	_____
		<u>G=Ralph Nader/Bilveau Cornejo/David Cobb</u>	_____
		<u>L=Harry Browne/MichaelBodnarik/Gary Nolan</u>	_____
% of voters in last election		<u>50%</u>	_____
Penalties for non voting/or incentives		<u>none</u>	_____
General election Date or last Election date		<u>1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday after 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in November in even numbered years</u>	_____

3. **TYPE** (double-spaced) a 2 page paper which compares/contrasts Mexico's constitution and election process with that of the U.S. Make sure you have at least one paragraph for each of the following: constitution, political parties and the election process. Be sure to include information on the U.S. in each paragraph.
4. **READ, SUMMARIZE AND RESPOND** to each of the 4 topical articles.  
**TYPE** (double-spaced) your summaries and responses for each article. Include a copy of each article with your summaries.

**TEACHER TEMPLATE**

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Point Value \_\_\_\_\_

**Am. Government: Global Project: Mexico****3rd Quarter:** Legislative/Executive Branches

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comparison of Executive, Legislative and Local Governments****REQUIREMENTS** for completing the project:

1. TWO or more sources of information are required.
2. Use the computer web site below for one source and then any other source:  
(Encyclopedias, 2004 Almanac, Constitutions of the World\* or other reference books are suggested.)
3. No bibliography is required.

Your **only** computer lab/library day for research will be \_\_\_\_\_  
+5 daily points will be given for bringing run-off copies **or** running the copies of research during class period in Library.

Suggested website research is: <http://www.worldgeography.abc-clio.com>\*\*You should **bookmark this site** on your home computer, as we will refer to it all year.

Other websites or other forms of references may be used.

3. **RUN OFF a copy of Mexico's Legislative, Executive, political leader & current events.** Use the copies for this project, but also save them for additional assignments and for your portfolio at the end of the year. Select 4 articles from the following topics: **Political Conflict, Social Issues, Human Rights, Immigration & Refugees, or Foreign Affairs** dated 2002-2004. Seek teacher assistance/advice on additional topics, if needed.

**4. COMPLETE THESE CHARTS:**

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
<b><u>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</u></b>		
Name & title of Head of State	<u>President George W. Bush</u>	_____
Name & title of Head of Gov't	<u>same</u>	_____
3 Political Facts about the Head of Government	<u>"compassionate conservative"</u> <u>Republican.</u> <u>Twice elected Gov. of Texas</u> <u>2<sup>nd</sup> father/son Presidency, etc.</u>	_____ _____ _____
3 Biographical Facts about the Head of Gov't	<u>57 years old, married, 2 children</u> <u>oil millionaire/TX rangers</u> <u>graduated Yale</u>	_____ _____ _____
Term of & time in office	<u>4 years (Jan 20, 2001), 2 term limit</u>	_____
How is executive chosen?	<u>Majority vote of Electoral College</u>	_____
Qualifications for office	<u>35 years of age</u> <u>14 years U.S. resident</u> <u>Natural born U.S. citizen</u>	_____ _____ _____
Executive Offices # (aka Cabinet)	<u>15</u> <u>Sec. Of State, Treas, Defense, Attorney General, etc.)</u>	_____ _____

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
Duties & Responsibilities	<u>sign/veto laws</u> <u>Appoint ambassadors/judges, etc.</u> <u>Make treaties/grant pardons</u>	
<b><u>LEGISLATIVE BRANCH</u></b>		
Name of body	<u>Congress</u>	
Unicameral or bicameral	<u>biameral</u>	
Number in each house	<u>S=100, H=434</u>	
Term of office	<u>S=6 yrs, H=2 yrs, no limits</u>	
Qualification for each House	<u>S=30 yrs, H=25 yrs</u> <u>S=7 yrs citizen, H=9 yrs citizen</u> <u>Resident of State representing</u>	
Length of Session/ date begins	<u>Begins Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>, year-round</u>	
Duties and responsibilities	<u>make laws, declare war</u> <u>approve treaties/appointments</u> <u>propose amendments to Constitution</u> <u>impeach Presidents, etc.</u>	

5. **Type (double-spaced) a 2-3-page comparison/contrast paper** on the US and Mexico's National Executive and Legislative branches. Include another paragraph which compares/contrasts Mexico's President with the U.S. President both politically and professionally. Make sure that you have four paragraphs for the following: executive branch, executive leader, legislative branch, and state government. Include information on the U.S. in all of your paragraphs.
6. **Read, summarize and respond to each of the 4 topical articles** chosen from the website. Type (double-spaced) your summaries and responses. Include copies of all articles with your papers.

**TEACHER TEMPLATE**

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Point Value \_\_\_\_\_

**Am. Government: Global Project: Mexico****4th Quarter:** Judicial Branch/Affiliations/Military**Due Date:** \_\_\_\_\_**Comparison of Judicial Branch/ International Affiliations/Military****REQUIREMENTS** for completing the project:

1. TWO or more sources of information are required.
2. Use the computer web site below for one source and then any other source:  
(Encyclopedias, 2004 Almanac, Constitutions of the World\* or other reference books are suggested.)
3. No bibliography is required.

Suggested website research is: <http://www.worldgeography.abc-clio.com>

Other websites or other forms of references may be used.

Your **only** computer lab/library day *for* research will be \_\_\_\_\_  
+5 daily points will be given for bringing run-off copies **or** running the copies during

3. RUN OFF COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING FOR MEXICO, using the above website: Judiciary, International affiliations, military facts & figures. Select four articles on the topics: **Crime & Corruption, Environment, Military Affairs, Terrorism, Territories & Possessions, Immigration, or Health Issues.**
4. **COMPLETE THE CHART:**

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
<b><u>JUDICIAL BRANCH</u></b>		
Name of highest court	<u>U.S. Supreme Court</u>	_____
Judge's term of office	<u>Life, unless die, impeach, resign</u>	_____
Qualification for office	<u>confirmable by Senate</u>	_____
Method of Appointment Or Election	<u>President with majority of Senate</u>	_____
City in which Court is located	<u>Washington, D. C.</u>	_____
When does Court meet?	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Mon in Oct thru April, yearly</u>	_____
Types if cases heard	<u>original (ambassador &amp; state)</u>	_____
	<u>Appellate from lower federal/state courts</u>	_____
Describe National/State	<u>dual court system</u>	_____
Additional duties & responsibilities of the court	<u>judicial review</u>	_____
	<u>oversee federal district courts</u>	_____

**INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

List affiliations to which country belongs.	<u>United Nations, World Bank,</u>	_____
	<u>IMF, OAS, NATO, etc.</u>	_____

	<u>UNITED STATES</u>	<u>MEXICO</u>
List & describe 1 affiliation	_____	_____
To compare/contrast	_____	_____
(not United Nations)	_____	_____

### MILITARY

Total active armed forces	<u>1.4 million active &amp; 1.3 million reserves</u>	_____
Where does your country have military acting as UN forces?	<u>Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia</u>	_____
	<u>Saudi Arabia, Turkey, etc.</u>	_____
% of total population serving in military	<u>5%</u>	_____
Annual expenditure	<u>\$350 billion, excluding Coast Guard</u>	_____
Military Service	<u>Voluntary male or female,</u>	_____
	<u>18 year old male registration for draft</u>	_____

3. **TYPE (double-spaced) a 2 page comparison/contrast paper** on the US and Mexico's National Judicial Branch, International Affiliations and Military. Type one paragraph for each topic. Include information on the US in each paragraph. In your international affiliation paragraph include a brief summary of any organization to which Mexico belongs and the U.S. does not.

4. **READ, SUMMARIZE AND RESPOND** to each of the 4 topical articles from the website. TYPE (double-spaced) your summaries and responses, and turn in copies of all articles.